

# Is IRAS 01072+4954 a True-Seyfert 2?

## Hints from Near Infrared Integral Field Spectroscopy

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### ABSTRACT

In contrast to the predictions of the unified model, some X-ray unobscured Seyfert 2 galaxies have been discovered in the last decade. One of them, the starburst/Seyfert composite galaxy IRAS 01072+4954 ( $z = 0.0236$ ), has a typical Type 1 X-ray emission, while its optical spectrum resembles an H II galaxy and lacks the expected broad lines. We performed near-infrared integral-field observations of this object with the aim to determine the nature of its nuclear emission and to find indications for the existence or absence of a broad-line region. Several reasons have been proposed to explain such peculiar emission. We studied the validity of such hypotheses, including the possibility for it to be True-Seyfert 2. We found little obscuration towards the nucleus  $A_V = 2.5$  mag, and a nuclear star-formation rate  $\Sigma_{SFR} < 11.6 \text{ M}_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{kpc}^{-2}$ , which is below the average in Seyferts. Unresolved hot-dust emission with  $T \sim 1150 \text{ K}$  seems to indicate the presence of a torus with its axis close to the line of sight. We found that IRAS 01072+4954 hosts a low mass black hole with an estimated mass of  $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^5 \text{ M}_\odot$  and an upper limit of  $2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ M}_\odot$ . Its bolometric luminosity is  $L_{\text{bol}} \simeq 2.5 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ , which yields a high accretion rate with an Eddington ratio  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} \simeq 0.2$ . If the relations found in more massive systems also apply to this case, then IRAS 01072+4954 should show broad emission lines with  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad}} \sim (400 - 600) \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Indeed, some indications for such narrow broad-line components are seen in our data, but the evidence is not yet conclusive. This source thus seems not to be a True-Seyfert 2, but an extreme case of a narrow-line Seyfert 1, which, due to the faintness of the active nucleus, does not have strong Fe II emission in the optical.

**Key words.** galaxies: active - galaxies: starburst - galaxies: individual: IRAS 01072+4954 - radiation mechanisms: general -infrared: galaxies

### 1. Introduction

The unified model of active galactic nuclei (AGN) has achieved great success on organizing and integrating a huge range of multiwavelength AGN phenomenology in one simple scheme (e.g., Barthel 1989; Antonucci 1993; Urry & Padovani 1995). The detection of polarized broad lines (BLs) and high X-ray column densities ( $N_{\text{H}} > 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ) in most ( $\lesssim 50\%$  and  $\sim 96\%$ , respectively) Seyfert 2 galaxies (Sy2) supports the idea of the presence of toroidal obscuring material ('torus') covering the central engine and the broad-line region (BLR; e.g., Miller & Goodrich 1990; Goodrich & Miller 1994). However, there is an increasing number of observational and theoretical indications that this could be an incomplete picture (see e.g., Lawrence 1987; Dopita 1997). Sources lacking a BLR, the so-called True-Sy2s, have been hypothesized (Nicasio 2000; Laor 2003; Elitzur & Ho 2009) and several candidates have been observed (Boisson & Durret 1986; Tran 2001; Panessa & Bassani 2002; Hawkins 2004; Bianchi et al. 2008; Shi et al. 2010; Tran et al. 2011). The absence of BLs in their spectra cannot be explained by obscuration given the very low  $N_{\text{H}}$  derived from their X-

ray emission. Due to the compelling evidences, extensions of the unified model have emerged (Maiolino et al. 1995; Dopita 1997; Elitzur & Shlosman 2006; Zhang & Wang 2006; Trump et al. 2011), but there are still many open questions. Are all AGN the same and only differ by the external obscuring structures? Do all have a torus? In what ranges of black hole mass and bolometric luminosity is an AGN able to sustain a BLR?

Several theoretical studies have predicted the disappearance of the BLR in low accretion-rate AGN. Laor (2003) has suggested, based on the correlation between the radius of the BLR and the bolometric luminosity  $L_{\text{bol}}$  (Kaspi et al. 2000), that in low-luminosity objects the BLR shrinks until a point where BLs cannot be formed. Elitzur & Shlosman (2006) suggested that the BLR and torus are two parts of the same disk-driven wind, which turns from hot and ionized to clumpy and dusty while going away from the central source. In low accretion-rate sources ( $L_{\text{bol}} < 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ ) the outflow is not longer supported, which causes the disappearance of the torus and, at somewhat lower accretion-rates, the vanishing of the BLR. In a similar approach, Nicasio (2000) proposed the BLR-wind to be maintained by the inner part of the accretion disk which is radiation-pressure dominated. At some critical accretion rate, the transition radius

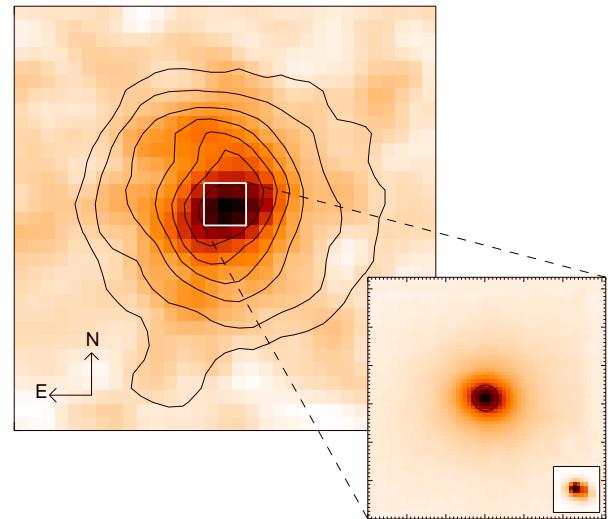
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between the radiation-pressure to the gas-pressure dominated disk approaches the innermost marginally stable orbit, and then the BLR cannot form. Besides, it has been suggested that the accretion flow in low-luminosity AGN (LLAGN) can be radiatively inefficient (e.g. Narayan 2002; Macchetto & Chiaberge 2007; Ho 2009; Trump et al. 2011). Models predict that when the Eddington ratio gets below  $\sim 10^{-2}$ , the accretion disk truncates and a geometrically-thick, optically-thin disk emerges in the inner region, leaving the thin Shakura-Sunyaev disk intact at larger radii. Such sources would have weak emission lines and lack the big blue bump in the optical/UV.

IRAS 01072+4954 is part of a small group of starburst/Seyfert composite galaxies identified by Moran et al. (1996) when studying the optical properties of sources that are bright in the far-infrared (IRAS) and that also are detected by ROSAT in X-rays. The starburst/Seyfert composites were described as objects with optical spectra dominated by starburst features and X-ray emission typical of broad-line AGN. In the Baldwin-Phillips-Terlevich (BPT) diagnostic diagram ([O III]/H $\beta$  vs. [N II]/H $\alpha$  emission-line ratios diagram; Baldwin et al. 1981; Veilleux & Osterbrock 1987) they are located in between the H II galaxies and Seyferts. The presence of the active nucleus is seen in the optical through the broader width of the [O III]  $\lambda\lambda 4959, 5007$  lines compared to any other permitted or forbidden line. IRAS 01072+4954 does not show the broad H $\alpha$  component identified in other composite galaxies (where the width ranges between 2500 to 3600 km s $^{-1}$ ) and given the faintness of the narrow H $\alpha$  emission it can be classified as a LLAGN (Ho et al. 1997a). Using BeppoSAX and Chandra, Panessa et al. (2005) confirmed the Type 1 character of the spectrum of this source: steep power-law photon-spectral index ( $\Gamma = 2.1$ ) and very low hydrogen column density ( $N_H < 0.04 \times 10^{22}$  cm $^{-2}$ ). Long- and short-term X-ray flux variations were also detected.

The lack of BLs in starburst/Seyfert composite sources has received different explanations: (i) The nuclear star formation outshines the optical signatures of accretion (aperture effect; e.g. Moran et al. 1996; Gliozzi et al. 2010). (ii) Very strong obscuration towards the nucleus hides the BLR and creates an X-ray reflected spectrum that mimics the spectral profile of sources with little absorption (as in the case of the starburst/Seyfert composite NGC 6221; Levenson et al. 2001). (iii) A clumpy ionized absorber obscures selectively the optical emission while leaving the X-rays unobscured (Georgantopoulos 2000; Maiolino et al. 2001). (iv) The accretion process is radiatively inefficient or the AGN feeding material is blown-away by winds or outflows (this is a common property of LLAGN; Macchetto & Chiaberge 2007; Ho 2003). (v) The AGN is intrinsically weak or there is no BLR at all, so that the source can be considered as a True-Sy2 (like in other unabsorbed Sy2s; Panessa & Bassani 2002; Panessa et al. 2009). High angular resolution data are necessary to provide better constraints on the physical processes at  $\sim 100$  pc scales.

Is IRAS 01072+4954 a typical LLAGN or does it host a True-Sy2 nucleus? Why have broad lines not been detected? Given that infrared radiation can arise from deeply embedded – optically absorbed – sources, we have carried out high angular and spectral resolution near-infrared (NIR) observations of IRAS 01072+4954 probing a similar region as the previous optical and X-ray data. In the follow-up paper (Paper II) we present a detailed description of the obser-



**Fig. 1.**  $30'' \times 30''$  2MASS K-band image of the galaxy IRAS 01072+4954. The overlaid contours correspond to the optical POSS-II image of the galaxy. The levels are 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8 and 0.9 of the optical peak flux. The central thick square represents the  $3'' \times 3''$  NIFS FOV. The NIFS K-band continuum is shown in the amplified region. The tick marks on the borders indicate the pixel scale  $\sim 0.04''$ . The image of the PSF reference star is shown at the bottom-right corner. For this study only the emission from the region enclosed by the circle at the center was considered.

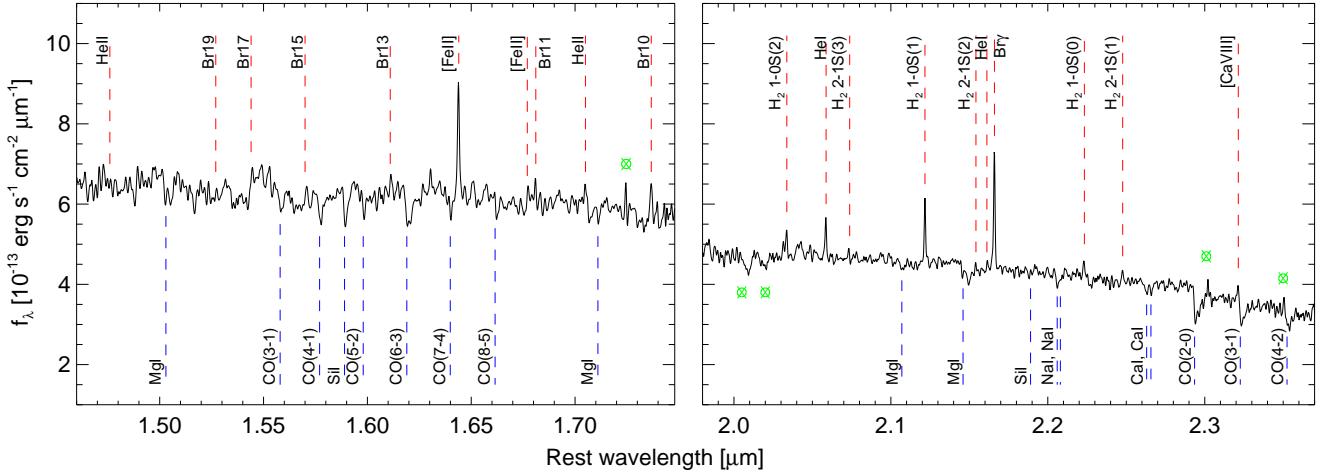
vations and data reduction; however for completeness we summarize here the main steps. In the present paper we focus on the central  $r \approx 75$  pc emission in order to uncover the nature of the AGN and offer a possible explanation for the mixed properties in the observed spectral energy distribution.

The observations and data reduction are described in Sect. 2. In Sect. 3 we study the different possibilities for the non-detection of BLs. The black hole mass and the bolometric luminosity are estimated in Sect. 4, where also the properties of the presumed BLR are derived. In Sect. 5 we combine our results with the X-ray and optical information to discuss the nature of the AGN in this source. Summary and conclusions are presented in Sect. 6. Throughout the study, we use a standard cosmological model with current density parameters  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ ,  $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$ ,  $H_0 = 72$  km s $^{-1}$ .

## 2. Observations and data reduction

The observations of IRAS 01072+4954 were carried out on October 6, 2008 with the Near-Infrared Integral Field Spectrometer NIFS (McGregor et al. 2003) mounted on the 8m “Frederick C. Gillett” Gemini North telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawaii. The adaptive optics module ALTAIR was used in Laser Guide Star mode. The  $3'' \times 3''$  NIFS field-of-view (FOV) encloses the optical<sup>1</sup>/NIR bulge of the galaxy (Fig. 1). The instrument provides high spatial and spectral resolution simultaneously.

<sup>1</sup> Optical image was taken from the Second Palomar Observatory Sky Survey (POSS-II)



**Fig. 2.** H- and K-band spectra of the central  $r = 0.16''$ . The spectral positions of some emission and absorption lines are signaled. The marked lines do not imply detections. The symbol  $\otimes$  indicates strong emission/absorption atmospheric features that remained after the reduction process.

The observations cover the H- and K-bands, centered on  $1.65\,\mu\text{m}$  and  $2.20\,\mu\text{m}$ , respectively, with a spectral resolution of  $57\,\text{km}\,\text{s}^{-1}$ . The total integration time was 40 min on source per band. The good atmospheric conditions in Mauna Kea were stable. The point spread function (PSF) was described by a two-dimensional gauss function fitted to the image of the reference star, J01100963+5010180. The derived spatial resolution (FWHM of the Gaussian) was  $0.17''$  in H-band and  $0.15''$  in K-band, which correspond to 78 pc and 72 pc, respectively. In Fig. 1, the amplified region corresponds to the NIFS K-band continuum. The image of the PSF reference star is also shown. The circle represents the aperture, with approximately the size of the K-band PSF, used when studying the nuclear emission in K-band. Whenever the combination of H- and K-bands was required, the K-band data was convolved to the resolution of the H-band observations and the integrated emission over a region with the size of the H-band PSF was considered.

The reduction procedure was performed using the GEMINI IRAF<sup>2</sup> package (released Version 2.14, of September 15, 2008). NIFS and GNIRS packages were used in combination with generic IRAF tasks. The final reconstruction of the data cubes, flux calibration and further data manipulation were accomplished using our own IDL routines. The absolute flux calibration was carried out using the H- and K-band flux densities of Vega ( $\alpha\text{Lyr}$ ) computed by Tokunaga & Vacca (2005) for the Mauna Kea NIR filter set. We estimated the uncertainty in our calibration to be  $\sim 10\%$ . Finally, the spectral range of the data cubes was transformed to the rest frame of the galaxy using the published value for the redshift  $z = 0.023616$ . Galactic extinction correction of  $E(B-V) = 0.156\,\text{mag}$  (Schlegel et al. 1998) was applied to the data.

### 3. Spectral analysis of the nucleus: Extinction, star formation and dust emission

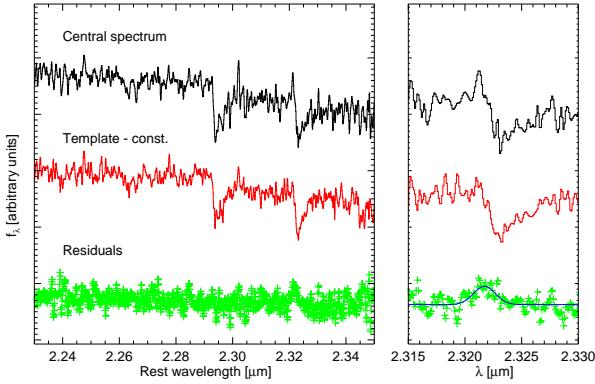
Here we describe very briefly the spectrum integrated over the central  $r \approx 0.16''$ , which corresponds to  $r \approx 75\,\text{pc}$  on source. We do not find indications of any classical broad emission at the position of the  $\text{Br}\gamma$  line. In the subsections we evaluate the impact of the extinction by cold dust, the nuclear star-formation, and hot dust obscuration (from the torus) on the detection of BL in this source.

The high angular and spectral resolution of NIFS allowed us to resolve the central hundred parsecs of the composite galaxy IRAS 01072+4954. Fig. 2 shows the spectrum extracted at the center from an aperture with the size of the PSF,  $r \approx 75\,\text{pc}$ . The most prominent emission lines in the H- and K-bands are  $[\text{Fe II}] \lambda 1.644\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $\text{Br10} \lambda 1.737\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $\text{HeI} \lambda 2.059\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $\text{H}_2(1-0)\text{S}(1) \lambda 2.122\,\mu\text{m}$  and  $\text{Br}\gamma \lambda 2.166\,\mu\text{m}$ . Also deep absorption lines are present in the central spectrum. Several CO absorption bands – like  $\text{CO}(4-1) \lambda 1.578\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $(6-3) \lambda 1.618\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $(7-4) \lambda 1.640\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $(2-0) \lambda 2.294\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $(3-1) \lambda 2.323\,\mu\text{m}$ , and  $(4-2) \lambda 2.352\,\mu\text{m}$  – as well as  $\text{SiI} \lambda 1.598\,\mu\text{m}$ ,  $\text{NaI} \lambda 2.206, 2.209\,\mu\text{m}$  and  $\text{CaI} \lambda 2.263, 2.266\,\mu\text{m}$  can be identified. The presence of the AGN could only be inferred from the faint and unresolved emission of the coronal line  $[\text{Ca VIII}] \lambda 2.322\,\mu\text{m}$ .

#### 3.1. Active nucleus and broad emission lines

Coronal lines are reliable AGN tracers, since pure starbursts produce few ionizing photons with energies higher than 54 eV. With the high spatial resolution data of NIFS, we were able to detect the  $[\text{Ca VIII}]$  line, which requires an ionizing potential of 127 eV to be excited. Despite its faintness, the  $[\text{Ca VIII}]$  line can be seen in the spectrum integrated over an aperture with the size of the PSF. Given the spectral position of this line, just at the border of the CO (3-1) band-head, a clear detection is not possible without removing the stellar contribution. Unfortunately, the procedure, used to remove the stellar features – described in Sect. 3.4 – also introduces additional noise in the residu-

<sup>2</sup> IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.



**Fig. 3.** Coronal [Ca VIII] emission in the central spectrum. The spectrum on top is extracted from the center with an aperture of the size of the PSF. The spectrum in the middle is the constructed stellar template, which is vertically shifted for clarity. The residuals from the subtraction of the latter from the former are shown with crosses. At the right, a zoom-in around the [Ca VIII] spectral position, and the fit of the line are shown.

als. After applying such procedure the flux of the line, estimated from a Gaussian fit, was  $7.9 \times 10^{-17} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ , the FWHM  $\simeq 290 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and the signal-to-noise ( $S/N$ )  $\simeq 2.5$  (Fig. 3). Despite the fact that NIR observations are less affected by dust obscuration and even though NIFS mapped the galaxy nucleus at high angular resolution, a classical broad component with a FWHM<sub>broad</sub>  $\gtrsim 2000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  was not detected in the spectrum. The median width of the strong emission lines is FWHM  $\sim 80 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . The criteria for the detection, at 3 times the level of the noise  $\sigma$ , of the broad component of a line at wavelength  $\lambda$  can be written as

$$\frac{F_{\text{broad},\lambda}}{3\sigma\sqrt{\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\lambda}^2 - \Delta\lambda^2}} > 1, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Delta\lambda$  is the spectral resolution of the instrument and  $F_{\text{broad},\lambda}$  is the flux of the broad line, which is assumed to be a Gaussian with a full-width-half-maximum of FWHM<sub>broad,λ</sub>. So, in our data the minimum flux that the broad-Br $\gamma$  component should have to be detected is  $F_{\text{broad},\text{Br}\gamma} = 2.4\sqrt{\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{Br}\gamma}^2 - 16.6 \times 10^{-17} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}}$  (with FWHM<sub>broad,Brγ</sub> measured in Å). Assuming a FWHM<sub>broad,λ</sub> = 2200 km s<sup>-1</sup> – which is the median value for the sample of Ho et al. (1997b) – for the BL, Eq. (1) implies that a Br $\gamma$  broad component would be detectable even if it was  $\sim 250$  times fainter than the observed narrow one (as a reference, the flux of the reddening-corrected Br $\gamma$  line is  $\simeq 2.1 \times 10^{-16} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ).

### 3.2. Extinction

The obscuration of the BLR can be caused by galactic structures present on all scales from kiloparsecs down to parsecs (see e.g., Bianchi et al. 2012, and references therein). It has been shown, for example, that the orientation of a galaxy has an impact on the classification of its nuclear activity (Shen et al. 2010; Lagos et al. 2011). IRAS 01072+4954 is approximately face-on and no signatures of dust lanes crossing the line of sight to the nucleus

are visible. Here we measure the extinction<sup>3</sup> at the center using recombination line ratios and compare it with those from other Sy 1 and Sy 2 galaxies in order to estimate the influence of cold dust on the observability of BL.

To estimate the extinction, it is necessary to make several assumptions about the distribution of the dust, the origin of the emission and the reddening curve (e.g., Rieke & Lebofsky 1985; Cardelli et al. 1989; Calzetti et al. 2000). As a first approximation, we assumed a homogeneous scatter-free dust screen placed in front of the nucleus. The fluxes of Br $\gamma$  and Br10 nebular hydrogen-emission lines were used as a probe for extinction according to the expression

$$A_V = 50.275 \times \log \left[ \frac{(F_{\text{Br}\gamma}/F_{\text{Br}10})_{\text{observ}}}{3.025} \right], \quad (2)$$

where  $A_V$  is the extinction in the visual band in magnitudes. The theoretically expected line ratio was calculated assuming the case-B recombination for a region with electron density of  $10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and temperature  $T = 10^4 \text{ K}$  (Osterbrock 1989). From this expression, we calculated  $A_V = 2.5 \text{ mag}$  in the central  $r = 0.16''$  spectrum.

The measured  $A_V$  is consistent with the median value  $\langle A_V \rangle = 1.64 \text{ mag}$  of 27 Sy2 galaxies from the database of Ho et al. (1997a), as pointed out by Rhee & Larkin (2005). In contrast, the median extinction of the 9 Sy1 sources of the same sample was  $< 0.03 \text{ mag}$ . However, it is still not clear whether such a difference between Sy1s and Sy2s is directly related to the obscuration of the BLR by cold dust, because in their study the extinction was determined from the optical Balmer decrement in apertures of  $2'' \times 4.1''$ , which map areas from a few pc<sup>2</sup> (in NGC 3031) to nearly 1 kpc<sup>2</sup> (in NGC 1275). From a detailed comparison of the two types of Seyferts of the same dataset, Ho (2003) found differences in the electron densities of the emitting regions and in the environment of the host galaxies.

To get a better spatial correspondence to the region we are considering here ( $r \approx 75 \text{ pc}$ ), we selected from the literature sources observed with high angular resolution and with extinction measured in the NIR. They are listed in the Table 1, including the aperture within which the fluxes were extracted, translated into a physical scale at the galaxy redshift. Table 1 shows that: (i) The  $A_V$  calculated from NIR lines is higher than the median extinction calculated from the optical data. This is expected because NIR observations probe regions with higher optical depths. (ii) The difference in extinction between the two types of objects is less evident or not present at all when measured in the NIR. For example, we found  $\langle A_{V,\text{Sy1.5-1}} \rangle = (4.1 \pm 3.0) \text{ mag}$ ,  $\langle A_{V,\text{Sy1.8-2}} \rangle = (4.0 \pm 3.1) \text{ mag}$ . It is known that several Sy2 sources show broad components only in the NIR (e.g., NGC 5506 see Nagar et al. 2002; NGC 2992 see Reunanen et al. 2003; Mrk 573 see Ramos Almeida et al. 2008; Veilleux et al. 1997). An explanation of this result is not evident, though probably related to the whole obscuring structure around the BLR, including the BL-emitting clouds shadowing themselves, the inclination and composition of the torus and the larger-scale components of the

<sup>3</sup> We refer to extinction  $A_\lambda$  as the net effect of the absorption and the scattering of the light along the line of sight produced by dust grains of different sizes and chemical compositions (see e.g., Natta & Panagia 1984; Calzetti et al. 1994). Therefore, we refer it to be produced by cold dust.

**Table 1.** NIR extinction measurements from high spatial resolution observations of randomly selected Seyfert galaxies.

Object	Type	Aperture	$A_V$	Ref.
NGC 5506	Sy1 <sup>a</sup>	$93 \times 155 \text{ pc}^2$	5.0	1
NGC 7582	Sy1 <sup>a</sup>	$200 \times 200 \text{ pc}^2$	1.86	2
NGC 4151	Sy1.5	$20 \times 20 \text{ pc}^2$	1.55	3
NGC 3783	Sy1.5	$r = 170 \text{ pc}$	$\sim 8.0$	4
Mrk 609	Sy1.8	$r = 160 \text{ pc}$	1.26	5
Mrk 1066	Sy2	$72 \times 72 \text{ pc}^2$	$1.84^b$	6
ESO 428-G14	Sy2	$r = 85 \text{ pc}$	$< 3.0^c$	4
Mrk 1157	Sy2 <sup>d</sup>	$145 \times 145 \text{ pc}^2$	5.03	7
NGC 1068	Sy2	$r = 120 \text{ pc}$	3.50	8
NGC 5135	Sy2	$r = 180 \text{ pc}$	9.71	5

**Notes.** The  $A_V$  was calculated from NIR lines.

(<sup>a</sup>) With observed broad Pa $\beta$  in the NIR spectrum. (<sup>b</sup>) Calculated from the Pa $\beta$ /Br $\gamma$  ratio. (<sup>c</sup>) From the Fig. 1 of Storchi-Bergmann et al. (2009). (<sup>d</sup>) With observed polarized broad lines.

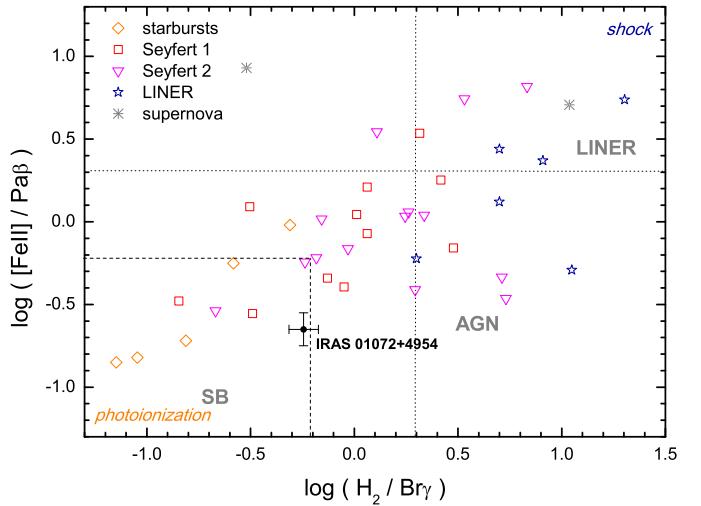
**References.** (1) Nagar et al. (2002); (2) Riffel et al. (2009b); (3) Storchi-Bergmann et al. (2009); (4) Reunanen et al. (2003); (5) Zuther et al. (2007); (6) Riffel et al. (2010); (7) Riffel & Storchi-Bergmann (2011b); (8) Martins et al. (2010); (9) Bedregal et al. (2009).

galaxies. Although the central  $A_V$  of IRAS 01072+4954 is comparatively low, it is not possible to judge the impact of that extinction on the observability of broad components, based only on the extinction value.

### 3.3. Star formation

Nuclear star formation can out-shine the BLR signatures. A detailed analysis of star formation and feedback at the nucleus is presented in Paper II. Here, we estimate its impact on the observed emission from the inner  $\approx 75 \text{ pc}$ . We use three different techniques: (i) A NIR diagnostic diagram, which is proposed to discriminate between star formation and AGN as the main ionizing source of the NIR emission lines. (ii) The star-formation rate derived from the Br $\gamma$  luminosity is used as an indicator of the starburst power. (iii) The fraction of the stellar emission in the continuum emission estimated from the equivalent widths of the stellar absorption lines in the spectrum.

The broad-band spectral-energy distribution (SED) of IRAS 01072+4954 peaks in the far-infrared ( $L(\text{FIR}) = 5.4 \times 10^{43} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ , calculated from the IRAS fluxes following Kewley et al. 2002). This shows the importance of the star-formation process in this source. Although most of it could take place in the disk, high angular resolution is required to isolate, as much as possible, the star formation from the AGN emission. In order to estimate the relative importance of the star formation in the data, we used the NIR-diagnostic diagram. In analogy to the optical BPT diagram, Larkin et al. (1998) and Rodríguez-Ardila et al. (2004, 2005b) suggested that the line ratios of prominent NIR species, [Fe II]  $\lambda 1.257 \mu\text{m}$ , Pa $\beta$ , H $_2\lambda 2.122 \mu\text{m}$  and Br $\gamma$ , could be used to determine the type of nuclear activity. Given that [Fe II]  $\lambda 1.257 \mu\text{m}$  and Pa $\beta$  were not covered by our observations, we calculated those fluxes from [Fe II]  $\lambda 1.644 \mu\text{m}$  and Br $\gamma$  using the theoretical value calculated by Nussbaumer & Storey (1988) for the ratio of



**Fig. 4.** NIR diagnostic diagram. The line ratios obtained from the central region of IRAS 01072+4954 are shown in comparison to the ones calculated from non-spatially resolved observations of other sources taken from the literature. The different type of activity in those objects is represented as shown in the label. The observational division between starbursts, Seyferts and LINERS are shown by dashed lines. The ratio [Fe II] $\lambda 1.644 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$  was converted to [Fe II] $\lambda 1.257 \mu\text{m}/\text{Pa}\beta$  using theoretical values as explained in the text.

the iron lines and the case-B for the hydrogen recombination. Previously the spectrum was corrected for extinction using  $f_{\lambda, \text{corr}}(\lambda) = f_{\lambda, \text{observ}}(\lambda) \times 10^{-0.4 A_V A_{\lambda, \text{V}}(\lambda)}$  with  $A_V = 2.5 \text{ mag}$  and the parametrization of the interstellar reddening  $A_{\lambda, \text{V}}(\lambda)$  of Cardelli et al. (1989). The originally proposed line ratios are essentially insensitive to obscuration, but we had to account for it because the lines we considered are in different bands. We found  $\log(\text{H}_2/\text{Br}\gamma) = -0.24 \pm 0.07$  and  $\log([\text{Fe II} 1.257]/\text{Pa}\beta) = -0.65 \pm 0.10$ . Fig. 4 shows the NIR-diagram where the line ratios of this source are compared with those of the starbursts, Seyferts and LINERs compiled by Rodríguez-Ardila et al. (2005b).

In the diagram, a moderate correlation between both line ratios along different activity types can be recognized. Such a trend is believed to correspond to an increasing progression from pure photoionization to pure shock excitation of [Fe II] and H $_2$ . IRAS 01072+4954 falls in between the areas occupied by starbursts and Seyfert galaxies, this implies a mixture of ionization mechanisms of the gas in the central region. In order to better constrain the amount of the stellar contamination at the center, it is necessary to estimate the strength of the emission of young and old stellar populations. The last one dominates the NIR emission, but the former can also account for  $\lesssim 20\%$  of the HK-band continuum in starburst galaxies (Riffel et al. 2009a).

Young OB stars emit UV photons that either ionize hydrogen or are absorbed by dust and converted into far-infrared flux. Given that the intensity of the hydrogen recombination lines is proportional to the Lyman continuum flux, they are reliable tracers of the star formation in cases where the AGN contribution is negligible. We used the star-formation rate (*SFR*) as an indicator of starburst power. Following the calibration of Panuzzo et al. (2003),

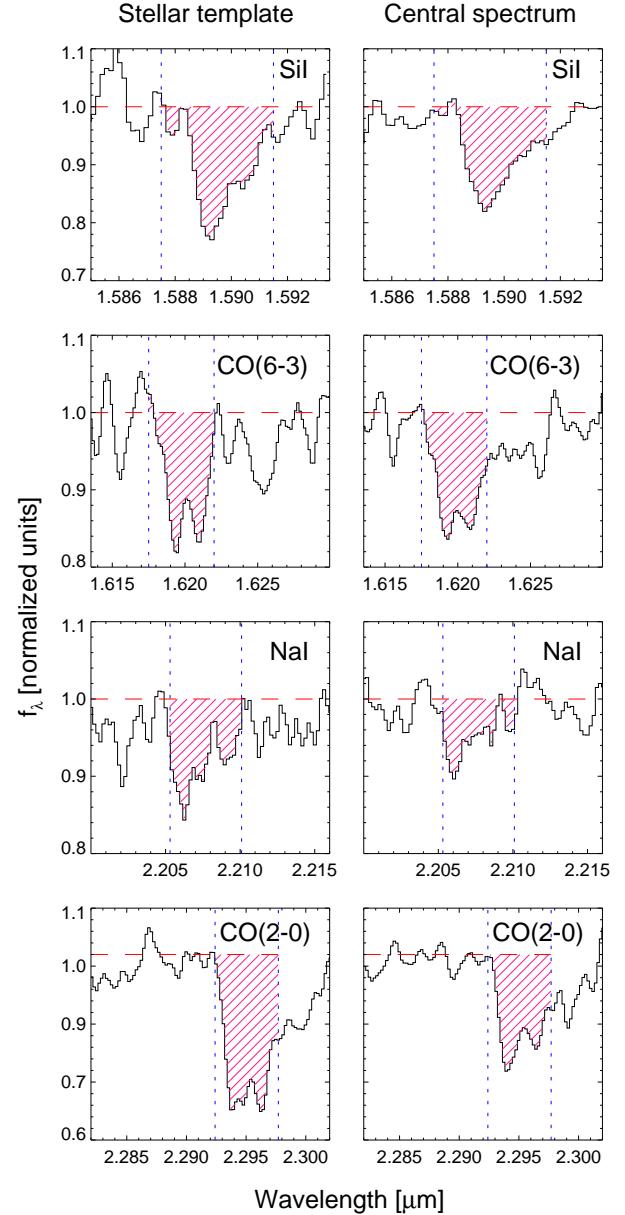
we calculated it as

$$\frac{SFR}{M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}} = \frac{L(\text{Br}\gamma)}{1.585 \times 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}}, \quad (3)$$

where  $L(\text{Br}\gamma)$  refers to the luminosity of the  $\text{Br}\gamma$  line. At the center of IRAS 01072+4954, the  $SFR < 0.35 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , implying a star-formation rate density of  $\Sigma_{SFR} < 11.6 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ . Here, we did not remove any contribution from the AGN, therefore this value is an upper limit. To compare with other objects, we calculated the  $\Sigma_{SFR}$  in the same way for the sample of AGN studied by Müller-Sánchez et al. (2011) from the  $\text{Br}\gamma$  fluxes and the aperture sizes reported in their Table 2. In general, on scales of tens of parsecs, the star formation ranges from  $50 - 500 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ , reaching to some  $1000 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$  on parsec scales; over hundreds of parsecs the star-formation rate density reduces to  $1 - 50 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ . A similar result was also found by Davies et al. (2007) using a different method for the estimation of the  $SFR$ . Although our reference sample is not statistically significant (11 sources, 5 Sy1s, 4 Sy2s and 2 intermediate types), it is possible to notice that the nucleus of IRAS 01072+4954 is not among the stronger star-forming sources but closer to the lower end of the  $\Sigma_{SFR}$  range. In the sample of composite sources studied by Moran et al. (1996), the authors compared the equivalent width of the  $\text{H}\alpha$  and  $[\text{N II}]$  lines of the composite objects with the spiral and starburst galaxies studied by Kennicutt (1992), arriving to a similar conclusion for the sample: the starburst components in composites are not exceptional among H II-galaxies. Therefore, if this source harbors a classical BLR, the star formation seems not to be an obstacle to observe BLs.

While the starburst component at the center is comparatively weak, deep absorption features of an old stellar population can be recognized in the spectrum. An estimate of the fraction of the continuum emission that is produced by intermediate-age and old stars can be obtained from the equivalent width  $W$  of the absorption lines. Origlia et al. (1993) and Oliva et al. (1995) showed that the stellar populations of normal galaxies (ellipticals and spirals) span a small range of  $W$ . In the presence of an AGN, the continuum flux increases due to the emission from hot dust, which has its maximum in the NIR, and as a consequence a decrease in the values of  $W$  is observed. In some Seyfert galaxies, also a power-law contribution, possibly originated from the AGN, has been detected (see e.g. Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2005a; Riffel et al. 2009c, 2010). Following the same idea, Davies et al. (2007) produced synthetic spectra using the code STARS (e.g., Sternberg 1998; Thornley et al. 2000) to reproduce the behaviour of the stellar-population properties as a function of time. They showed that after 10 Myr, independent of the star-formation history, the values of the  $W_{\text{CO}(6-3)}$ ,  $W_{\text{NaI}}$  and  $W_{\text{CO}(2-0)}$  vary only by  $\sim 20\%$  around some typical values. Similar results can be obtained with the code SB99 (Leitherer et al. 1999; Vázquez & Leitherer 2005). The equivalent widths predicted by these codes are in agreement with the previous measurements of Origlia et al. (1993) and Oliva et al. (1995).

We measured the equivalent widths of the  $\text{CO}(6-3)$  and  $\text{CO}(2-0)$  bands, the  $\text{Si I}$  and the  $\text{Na I}$  lines in the spectrum extracted from the central  $r = 0.16''$  and compared them



**Fig. 5.** Equivalent widths of some absorption lines in the stellar template spectrum (left) and the spectrum extracted at the center (right). The spectra are normalized to the continuum level, which is shown as a dashed line in each case. The vertical dotted lines mark the limits of the integration regions. The measured values are reported in Table 2. From top to bottom the absorption features are, as signaled, Si I, CO (6-3), Na I and CO (2-0).

with the theoretically typical ones  $W_{\text{int}}$ , and with the ones measured from a stellar template  $W_{\text{temp}}$  (Fig. 5). The template was obtained by integrating the emission over an annulus<sup>4</sup> with inner radius  $0.24''$  and outer radius  $0.43''$ . The typical equivalent widths for populations older than 10 Myr obtained from the STARS and SB99 codes and the mea-

<sup>4</sup> The northern part of the annulus was cut out, because it crosses a region of very recent star formation (see Paper II).

**Table 2.** Equivalent widths measured in the central region  $W$ , in the stellar template  $W_{\text{temp}}$ , and predicted by synthetic stellar-population codes  $W_{\text{int}}$ . The fraction of the continuum at the center that is emitted by stars  $f_{\text{stellar}}$  was obtained by comparing  $W$  with  $W_{\text{temp}}$ , and with  $W_{\text{int}}$ .

Feature	$W^a$ [Å]	$W_{\text{int}}$ [Å]	$f_{\text{int}}^{\text{stellar}}$ [ % ]	$W_{\text{temp}}$ [Å]	$f_{\text{temp}}^{\text{stellar}}$ [ % ]
SiI	$3.5 \pm 0.2^b$	$2.5^c$	100 <sup>d</sup>	$4.2 \pm 0.3^b$	80
CO(6-3)	$4.9 \pm 0.3$	4.5	100	$4.6 \pm 0.3$	100 <sup>d</sup>
NaI	$3.0 \pm 0.2$	2.5	100	$4.5 \pm 0.3$	65
CO(2-0)	$8.6 \pm 0.3$	12	70	$13.6 \pm 0.4$	65

**Notes.** <sup>a</sup> From the spectrum integrated over a region of  $r \approx 75$  pc. <sup>(b)</sup> Corrected for the contribution of Br14  $\lambda 1.588$ . <sup>(b)</sup> Calculated using SB99 code. <sup>(c)</sup> Set to the maximum value, 100%.

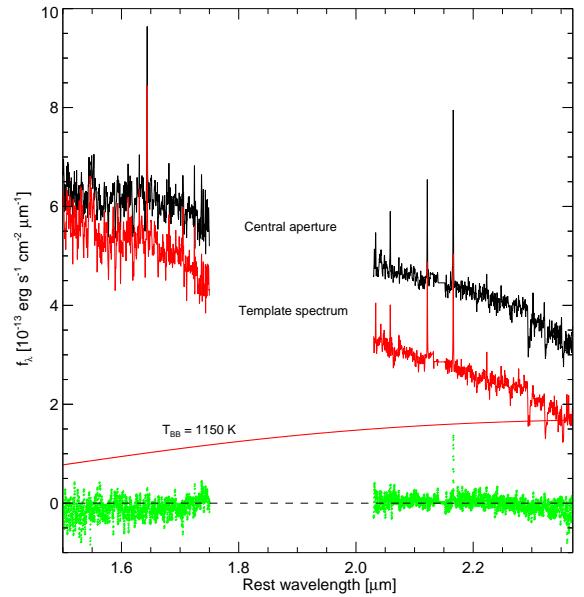
sured equivalent widths in the central and in the template spectra are listed in Table 2. We used the integration limits quoted by Origlia et al. (1993) for the  $W_{\text{SiI}}$ ,  $W_{\text{CO(6-3)}}$  and  $W_{\text{CO(2-0)}}$  and those by Förster Schreiber (2000) for  $W_{\text{NaI}}$ . The stated errors represent  $1\sigma$  intervals assuming that the noise over the integrated area is the same as that in neighboring regions selected to contain no obvious stellar-absorption lines. We calculated the error corresponding to 1% of uncertainty on the continuum-level estimation to be  $\sim 0.4$  Å. The fraction of stellar emission in the central aperture  $f_{\text{stellar}}$  was calculated as the ratio of  $W$  at the center and a reference value, following the prescription of (Davies et al. 2007). Taking as reference values the equivalent widths predicted from the synthetic stellar-population codes  $W_{\text{int}}$  and the equivalent widths measured in the template spectrum  $W_{\text{temp}}$  we obtained two estimates of the stellar fraction in the central region,  $f_{\text{int}}^{\text{stellar}} = W/W_{\text{int}}$  and  $f_{\text{temp}}^{\text{stellar}} = W/W_{\text{temp}}$  for each absorption feature in the study. These values are also presented in Table 2.

Although the theoretically typical  $W_{\text{int}}$  of the SiI and NaI are lower than the measured equivalent widths in both absorption features, the values are still consistent within the errors of the measurements and with the scatter of the equivalent widths in stellar populations of different ages. In general, it is possible to notice that the H-band spectrum appears to be completely dominated by the stellar emission, while at least 20% of the K-band emission has a different origin.

### 3.4. Hot dust emission

In order to investigate the nature of the central non-stellar emission, we subtracted the stellar contribution from the nuclear spectrum and fitted the remaining flux to determine the amount of featureless continuum power-law contribution in these bands and the temperature of the hot dust. The latter is associated with the presence of the putative torus (or toroidal obscuration) and its orientation respect to the line of sight towards the observer. Both of these parameters give hints on the viability of observing BLs, if present.

Following the method described by Rodríguez-Ardila et al. (2005a), we assumed the central spectrum to be the linear combination of three components: stellar emission, blackbody radiation from



**Fig. 6.** Fit of the NIR central spectrum of IRAS 01072+4954. The spectrum of the nucleus integrated over an aperture of  $r = 0.16''$  is presented on top. The stellar and hot-dust fitted contributions are shown. They were modeled with the constructed stellar-template (middle spectrum) and a blackbody of  $T = 1150$  K, respectively. Small spectral regions with spurious residuals were masked and replaced by the median of the values at their borders. The residuals of the fitting procedure are shown at the bottom with dots. The dashed line marks the zero flux.

hot dust and a non-thermal source described as a power law  $f_\lambda \propto \lambda^\alpha$ . The stellar contribution is represented by the stellar template obtained as explained above (Sect. 3.3) and corrected for extinction. This implies the assumption that the stellar populations at the center and in the surroundings share the same characteristics. The template was scaled to have about the same  $W_{\text{CO(2-0)}}$  (within the errors) as the central spectrum and then was subtracted from it. The scaling factor of the template was also restricted such that the emission lines of H<sub>2</sub> and [FeII] were not oversubtracted. The next step was fitting the blackbody and power-law contributions to the residual emission. In the wavelength range of our data, it was not possible to constrain the power-law component and therefore the independency of the blackbody and the power-law contributions could not be assured. In a conservative approach, we fitted the residuals only with a blackbody using the IDL based routine MPFITEXPR (Markwardt 2009), which performs Levenberg-Marquardt least-squares minimization (Fig. 6). To get a better approximation to the continuum, small spectral regions with residuals of strong absorption or emission lines were masked.

The appropriate estimation of the obscuration in the central spectrum and in the template was critical, because the reddening acts over the spectrum in the opposite way as the hot-dust contribution. Observations over a larger wavelength baseline could help to overcome the degeneracy problem. The central spectrum was corrected for an extinction

of  $A_V = 2.5$  mag, as discussed in Sect. 3.2. Given that the Br10 line was very faint in several regions from where the template was taken, we used the H–K color to calculate the extinction acting on the template spectrum  $A_{V,\text{temp}}$ . We used a  $\sim 0.5\text{\AA}$  window around  $1.61\mu\text{m}$  and  $2.20\mu\text{m}$  to determine the H- and K-band magnitudes, respectively. Assuming that the H–K color of a late-type stellar population is about 0.26 mag (Willner et al. 1984), the extinction was computed as

$$A_{V,\text{temp}} = \frac{(\text{H} - \text{K}) - 0.26}{0.0765}, \quad (4)$$

which in our case implies  $A_{V,\text{temp}} = 3.8$  mag. The result of the modeling showed that 75% of the central  $r \approx 75\text{ pc}$  emission is produced by stars and the remaining 25% is described by a blackbody of  $T \approx 1150\text{ K}$  in agreement with the estimates based on the equivalent width of the absorption lines. Fig. 6 shows the best fit to the central spectrum. Possible errors in the estimation of  $A_{V,\text{temp}}$  affect mainly the value of the temperature of the fitted blackbody. A variation of 0.5 mag in the  $A_{V,\text{temp}}$  causes an increase/decrease of  $\sim 80\text{ K}$ . Lower obscuration of the stellar component results in higher temperatures, while an  $A_{V,\text{temp}} \geq 5.0$  mag (which implies  $T \leq 980\text{ K}$ ) produces negative residuals in the H-band and a low-quality fit. The weak trend present in the residuals of the best model fit (Fig. 6), though, is consistent with the error of  $\sim 10\%$  in the flux calibration, could indicate that the stellar extinction is slightly overestimated – and, consequently result in an underestimation of the temperature.

Previous studies that used the same method in NIR spectra (e.g., Rodríguez-Ardila et al. 2005b; Riffel et al. 2009c, 2010) or broad-band SED modeling (e.g., Marco & Alloin 1998; Kishimoto et al. 2007; Exposito et al. 2011) found temperatures of  $\gtrsim 1000\text{ K}$  in Type 1 AGN and  $\lesssim 800\text{ K}$  in Type 2s. From JHK spectroscopy, Landt et al. (2011) also found temperatures ranging from 1100 to  $\sim 1700\text{ K}$  for a sample of 23 type 1 sources. Recently, Mor & Trakhtenbrot (2011) showed that the NIR emission of  $\sim 80\%$  type 1 AGN can be explained by emission from hot, pure-graphite dust clouds. Such hot and unresolved central emission has been interpreted as an evidence for the putative torus predicted by the unified model. Given that for  $T \gtrsim 1000\text{ K}$  most astrophysical grain compositions sublime (Salpeter 1977; Barvainis 1987; Granato & Danese 1994), emission at these temperatures must correspond to dust located very close to the accretion disk (clouds in the inner region of a torus?), while further out the temperature of the dust decreases rapidly as a result of a larger distance from the source and the shadowing effect caused by other dust clouds (Elitzur 2008). A dust temperature of  $\approx 1150\text{ K}$  in IRAS 01072+4954 indicates that we have – at least partially – a clear view towards the center. With the wavelength range of our data, it was not possible to fit the expected featureless continuum power-law emission coming from the central source. The presence of such component with a typical flux density  $f_\lambda \propto \lambda^{-0.5}$ , would imply higher temperature of the hot dust emission.

#### 4. The broad-line region in IRAS 01072+4954

In this section, we use scaling relations and correlations valid for classical AGN – with black hole masses between

$10^7$  to  $10^9 M_\odot$  –, in order to characterize the active nucleus of this galaxy. First, we fit its brightness profile and estimate the black hole mass and the bolometric luminosity of the accretion disk using NIFS continuum maps and stellar absorption features. Then, we describe the properties of the expected BLR and some indications of the presence of the predicted BLR emission in our data. We also study other possibilities for the origin of the emission feature observed at the position of the Br $\gamma$  line.

Does IRAS 01072+4954 have a BLR? The origin of the broad-line region is still not known. Theoretical works relate it with some sort of wind/outflow from the accretion disk (e.g., Murray et al. 1995; Elitzur & Shlosman 2006; Nicastro 2000; Elitzur & Ho 2009; Czerny & Hryniewicz 2011). Models associate the production of such wind with the bolometric luminosity of the accretion disk  $L_{\text{bol}}$ , the mass of the black hole  $M_{\text{BH}}$  and the accretion rate  $\dot{m}$ .<sup>5</sup> In cases when  $\dot{m} \gtrsim 0.01$ , it is possible to equate the accretion rate to the Eddington ratio  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} \equiv L_{\text{bol}}/L_{\text{Edd}}$ . When  $\dot{m} < 0.01$  the accreting fluid becomes radiatively inefficient and  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$  decreases more rapidly than  $\dot{m}$ . For example, in LLAGN the  $\langle \lambda_{\text{Edd}} \rangle \lesssim 10^{-3}$  for Sy1s and  $\sim 10^{-6}$  for Sy2s, LINERs and transition objects (for a review see e.g., Ho 2008).

Observationally, the existence of the BLR can be inferred from the black hole mass and the bolometric luminosity of the accretion disk. Here we use indirect methods to determine them.

##### 4.1. Brightness profile

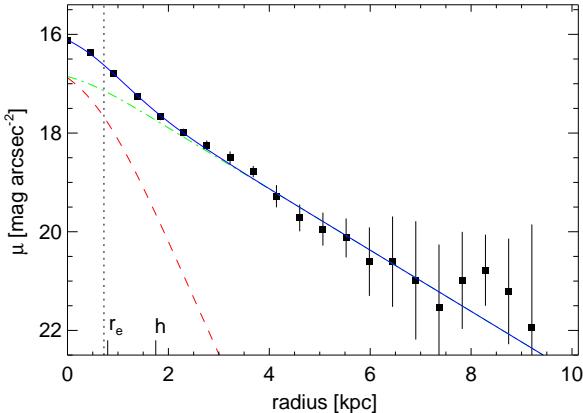
To estimate the black hole mass via scaling relations with the bulge of the host, it is necessary to perform a proper decomposition of the photometric components (AGN, bulge, disk) of the galaxy. The only available NIR images of the whole galaxy are provided by the 2MASS (Skrutskie et al. 2006). The faintness of the source in the 2MASS observations does not allow a 2-dimensional decomposition. As a first approximation we obtained the brightness profile of the galaxy  $I_{\text{observ}}(r)$  integrating the 2MASS K-band image over circular rings of  $1''$  width, centered at the continuum peak. The 2MASS K-band point-spread-function  $\text{PSF}_{\text{2MASS}}$  was derived from a star in the field and modeled as a Gaussian with  $\text{FWHM} = 3.34''$ . The bulge was assumed to follow a general Sersic profile with effective radius  $r_e$  and index  $n$  as parameters. The disk was described by an exponential profile with scale radius  $h$ . The fit was done using the MPFIT routine to minimize the expression  $|I_{\text{observ}}(r) - I_{\text{model}}(r)|^2$ , where

$$I_{\text{model}}(r) = \left[ c_0 \exp \left\{ -\nu_n [(r/r_e)^{1/n} - 1] \right\} + c_1 e^{(-x/h)} \right] * \text{PSF}_{\text{2MASS}}, \quad (5)$$

here,  $c_0$  and  $c_1$  are constants,  $\nu_n$  is a function of the Sersic index<sup>6</sup> and  $*$  means convolution. We set  $n = 1$  as the minimum value for the Sersic index. Fig. 7 presents the best fit

<sup>5</sup> Here  $\dot{m}$  is the dimensionless accretion rate, defined as  $\dot{m} \equiv \dot{M}/\dot{M}_{\text{Edd}}$ , with  $\dot{M}_{\text{Edd}} = 2.4 \times (M_{\text{BH}}/10^8) M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , assuming a radiative efficiency of 0.1.

<sup>6</sup>  $\nu_n$  can be determined from  $n$  using the approximation  $\nu_n = 2n - 1/3 + 4/(405n) + 46/(25515n^2) + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3})$ .



**Fig. 7.** K-band brightness profile derived from the 2MASS image. The solid line is the best fit of the data (filled squares). The two components of the model, bulge (dashed line) and disk (dot-dashed line), are shown. In the horizontal axis the positions of the effective radius  $r_e$  and the scale radius  $h$  are marked. The width of the 2MASS K-band PSF is signaled with the vertical dotted line. The sky level is reached at  $\sim 22$  mag arcsec $^{-2}$ .

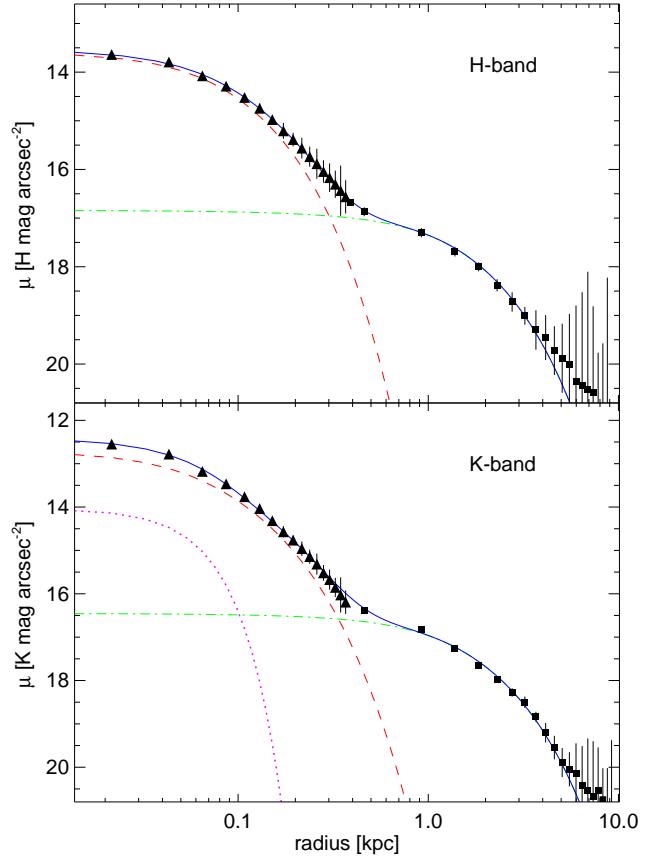
to the 2MASS K-band data, with the photometric parameters:  $r_e = (0.8 \pm 0.3)$  kpc,  $n \approx 1$  and  $h = (1.75 \pm 0.8)$  kpc. As Fig. 7 shows, the fitted effective radius, which corresponds to  $\sim 1.7''$ , is about the same as the PSF<sub>2MASS</sub>, meaning that probably the bulge component is not resolved in the 2MASS image.

A second attempt to obtain the bulge parameters was done including the NIFS data. Fig. 8 shows the best fit to the H- and K-band NIFS+2MASS data. In the case, the Sersic profile was convolved to the resolution of the NIFS observations, while the exponential function to the one of the 2MASS image. One extra component was used to model the K-band profile, where the AGN + hot dust contribution was modeled as a Gaussian with the width of the NIFS point-spread-function PSF<sub>NIFS</sub>. Hence, the surface-profile model that we used was

$$I_{\text{model}}(r) = k_0 \text{PSF}_{\text{NIFS}} + \left[ k_1 \exp \left\{ -\nu_n [(x/r_e)^{1/n} - 1] \right\} \right] * \text{PSF}_{\text{NIFS}} + \left[ k_2 e^{(-x/h)} \right] * \text{PSF}_{\text{2MASS}}, \quad (6)$$

where  $k_0, k_1$  and  $k_2$  are coefficients and the other symbols have the same meaning as before. In the H-band, the contribution from the AGN and the hot dust are negligible – or not significant compared to the stellar one –, therefore when fitting the H-band profile, we used  $k_0 = 0$ . On the other hand, for the K-band modeling,  $k_0$  was fixed to account for the detected 25% of non-stellar emission in the central  $r = 0.16''$  (see Sect. 3.4). The photometric parameters  $r_e, n$  and  $h$  as well as the surface brightness at the center  $I_0$  obtained from the H- and K-band fits are reported in Table 3.

Brightness profiles similar to the ones shown in Fig. 8 have been observed in pseudobulge galaxies. Kormendy & Kennicutt (2004) presented some examples where a combination of HST WFPC2 and 2MASS JHK photometry allowed to study in great detail the photometric



**Fig. 8.** Brightness profile of IRAS 01072+4954 obtained by combining the NIFS (triangles) and 2MASS (squares) data. H-band profile is shown in the upper panel and K-band at the bottom. In both cases, the dashed line corresponds to a Sersic profile fitted to the bulge, and the dash dotted line to an exponential function that fits the disk component. The solid lines show the overall fits. The dotted line in the lower panel represents the AGN + hot dust contribution fixed to the 25% of the inner  $r \approx 75$  pc emission, based on the results presented in Sect. 3.4. The photometric parameters of the profiles in both bands are listed in Table 3.

components of nearby galaxies. However, our fit has to be taken as a first approximation to the actual brightness profile, because the data sets we used do not properly overlap with each other. The continuum maps made from the NIFS data cubes extend until  $\sim 1.3''$  ( $\sim 0.6$  kpc) where the noise level is reached, which corresponds to  $\lesssim \text{PSF}_{\text{2MASS}}$ . While it is clear that the NIFS observations captured the bulge of the galaxy and that the 2MASS describes better the extended component, the fact that both components overlap along the projected radius implies that in Eq. (6) the second and third terms are not independent of each other as it was assumed. A proper decomposition of the surface profile requires high angular resolution observations of the whole galaxy or a major portion of it. However, if we accept that the NIFS data represent reasonably well the bulge of the galaxy, then IRAS 01072+4954 has a pseudobulge. In fact, this seems to be a common property of late-type galaxies (Andredakis & Sanders 1994; Andredakis et al. 1995;

**Table 3.** Results from NIFS+2MASS surface brightness profile fits. Photometric parameters derived from the fitting procedure are listed. Black hole mass estimations in both bands were obtained using the bulge luminosity vs.  $M_{\text{BH}}$  relation.

	H-band	K-band
$n$	$1.02 \pm 0.07$	$1.17 \pm 0.08$
$r_e$ [pc]	$152.5 \pm 12.9$	$159.2 \pm 17.8$
$h$ [kpc]	$1.42 \pm 0.26$	$1.47 \pm 0.53$
$I_0^a$ [ $10^3 \text{ L}_{\odot,\lambda} \text{ pc}^{-2}$ ]	$34.2 \pm 0.5$	$74.6 \pm 2.0$
$L_{\lambda,\text{bulge}}^a$ [ $10^9 \text{ L}_{\odot,\lambda}$ ]	$1.71 \pm 0.60$	$3.24 \pm 1.91$
$M_{\text{BH}}^{a,b}$ [ $10^6 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ ]	$1.2^{+1.8}_{-0.7}$	$2.5^{+4.7}_{-1.7}$

**Notes.** <sup>(a)</sup> Upper limit, as explained in the text. <sup>(b)</sup> Calculated using Marconi & Hunt (2003, Their Table 2).

Ganda et al. 2009). In many Sc galaxies the bulge profile is close to an exponential, as observed in this case (see Kormendy & Kennicutt 2004, and references therein).

#### 4.2. Black Hole Mass Estimation

The black hole mass has found to be correlated with some properties of the host galaxy bulge (e.g., Magorrian et al. 1998; Gebhardt et al. 2000; Ferrarese & Merritt 2000; Marconi & Hunt 2003). Here we use the velocity dispersion of the stars in the bulge and its NIR luminosity to estimate  $M_{\text{BH}}$ , under the assumption that the scaling relations involving such quantities are valid in this case.

The specific H- and K-band bulge luminosities  $L_{\text{H,bulge}}$  and  $L_{\text{K,bulge}}$  were obtained by integrating the Sersic profiles that best fitted the H- and K-band bulge surface brightness. The values of  $L_{\text{H,bulge}}$  and  $L_{\text{K,bulge}}$ , which are given in Table 3, are of the order of few  $10^9$  solar luminosities. From the scaling relations between  $M_{\text{BH}}$  -  $L_{\text{H,bulge}}$  and  $M_{\text{BH}}$  -  $L_{\text{K,bulge}}$  found by Marconi & Hunt (2003, see their Table 2), we estimated the black hole mass to be  $1-2 \times 10^6 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ . The  $M_{\text{BH}}$  obtained in this way are presented also in Table 3. The errors do not include the intrinsic rms scatter of the correlations of  $\sim 0.52$  dex.

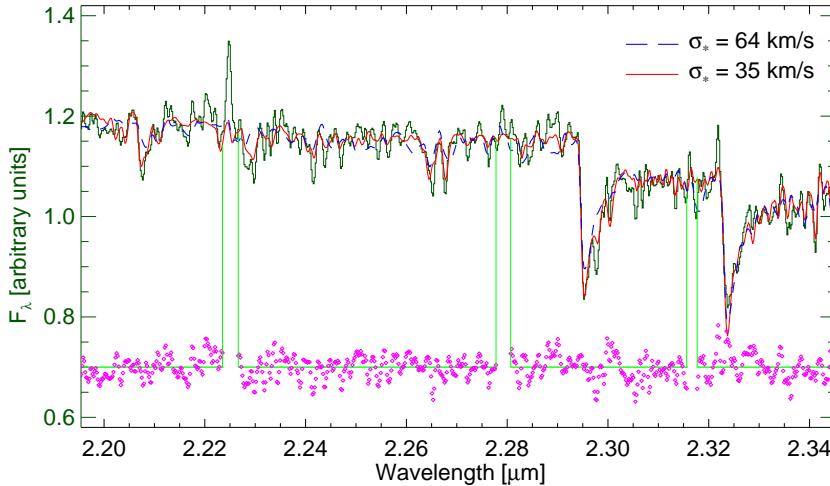
Another estimation of the black hole mass can be done using the relation between the  $M_{\text{BH}}$  and the stellar velocity dispersion  $\sigma_*$ . To measure  $\sigma_*$ , we fitted stellar templates to the K-band spectrum integrated over an aperture of  $r \approx 0.3''$ , which corresponds to the  $r_e$  found above. We used the penalized pixel fitting routine (pPXF) of Cappellari & Emsellem (2004), which minimizes the difference between the galaxy and convolved stellar templates. The algorithm reduces the effect of the template mismatch, allowing different weights of the templates, and returns the radial velocity  $V$ , the velocity dispersion  $\sigma_*$ , and higher-order Gauss-Hermite moments  $h_3$  and  $h_4$  of the line of sight velocity distribution (LOSVD). The stellar templates were taken from the Gemini spectroscopic library of NIR stars observed with the NIFS IFU in K-band, because of the need for high spectral resolution (Winge et al. 2009). The library contains 11 giant and supergiant stars with stellar types from G8 to M5. When using the full library as an input of the pPXF routine the quality of the fit was not good and the velocity dispersion was clearly overestimated (Fig. 9). Therefore, we selected a sub-sample of objects whose absorption features better resemble the H- and K-band continua-

uum of the galaxy. For this selection we used the medium-resolution ( $R \sim 2000 - 3000$ ) NIR library of Ivanov et al. (2004), given the lack of high-resolution H-band templates. We compared the HK spectra of all the stars that have the same spectral type as the ones of the Gemini library with the galaxy-continuum spectrum and discarded the objects with stellar type earlier than K2. The sub-sample consisted of stellar spectra of the following types: K2III, K5Ib, K5II, K5III, M2III, M3III and M5III. Spectral regions with emission lines and residuals of sky lines were masked. Fig. 9 shows the best fit of the LOSVD with the parameters:  $V = (-17.7 \pm 2.1) \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ,  $\sigma_* = (34.7 \pm 3.2) \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ,  $h_3 = 0.107 \pm 0.046$  and  $h_4 = 0.020 \pm 0.013$ . The error was estimated via Monte Carlo simulations where the pPXF routine was applied to 500 realizations of an input spectrum. That spectrum was created adding Poisson noise to a stellar template to the level of the data ( $S/N \sim 30$ ) and randomizing the LOSVD parameters around the best fit-parameters of the galactic spectrum (e.g.,  $\sigma_*$  varied from 14 to  $\sim 140 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ).

Assuming that AGN follow the same  $M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma_*$  correlation found for inactive galaxies, we used the Tremaine et al. (2002) relation with the updated values of Gultekin et al. (2009, see their Eq. 3.) to get  $M_{\text{BH}} = (0.79^{+1.18}_{-0.48}) \times 10^5 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ . The intrinsic rms scatter of the correlation is  $\sim 0.44$  dex. Several authors have pointed out that the  $M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma_*$  relation in AGN could have a shallower slope (Greene & Ho 2005; Woo et al. 2010; Xiao et al. 2011). With the Xiao et al. (2011) correlation ( $\sim 0.46$  dex) we obtained  $M_{\text{BH}} = (1.43^{+1.13}_{-0.64}) \times 10^5 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ , in agreement with the previous findings.

The estimations of the  $M_{\text{BH}}$  from both scaling relations differ by about one order of magnitude. This can be reconciled given the photometric errors, the scatter of the correlations and the approximation made when obtaining the NIR luminosities. As discussed previously, the NIFS and 2MASS data sets used to create the brightness profile have very different resolutions and sensitivities. One of the direct consequence is that the flux at the center of the 2MASS image of the galaxy is spread-out and therefore some contribution of the disk-flux at small radii is missing. This means that the bulge luminosities, and thereupon the black hole masses derived from them, can be considered as upper limits. Photometrically and dynamically, IRAS 01072+4954 seems to host a low-mass black hole, which represents an intermediate-mass black hole (IMBH) candidate with  $M_{\text{BH}} \lesssim 10^6 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ .

On the other hand, it is not clear whether pseudobulge galaxies follow the same scaling relations as the ones that have classical ( $n \sim 4$ ) bulges (e.g. Hu 2008; Kormendy & Bender 2011; Graham 2011; Jiang et al. 2011). Pseudobulges appear to lie below the correlation and/or to have a larger scatter around it, however the statistics cover only around a dozen of them. Recently, Beifiori et al. (2011) found similar zero points but different slopes in the  $M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma_*$  correlations of galaxies with classical bulges in comparison with those with pseudobulges (the latter one steeper than the former). This would imply much lower black holes masses for a fixed ( $< 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) velocity dispersion. Although the authors pointed out that the significance level of the correlation is very low.



**Fig. 9.** Fit of the stellar kinematics of the K-band spectrum integrated over an aperture  $r = r_e = 160 \text{ pc}$ . The observed spectrum is shown as a thin solid line. Two different fits to the data are shown: the one obtained when using the whole stellar NIFS library (blue dashed line) and the one with the selected NIFS stellar templates (red solid line). Small spectral regions with emission or spurious lines were masked for the fit and in the plot are delimited by the vertical lines. The residuals, shifted vertically for clarity, are shown at the bottom with points.

#### 4.3. Bolometric luminosity

Here we use the hard X-ray luminosity  $L_{2-10\text{keV}}$  of IRAS 01072+4954 reported by Panessa et al. (2005), to estimate its bolometric luminosity  $L_{\text{bol}}$  and the mass-accretion rate. In the following estimations we use  $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^5 M_\odot$ .

In contrast to other methods, fitting the broad-band spectrum of the source can provide a quite accurate determination of  $L_{\text{bol}}$ . However, given the lack of a nuclear SED, we applied a bolometric correction to the hard X-ray luminosity  $L_{2-10\text{keV}}$ . Marconi et al. (2004) and Hopkins et al. (2007) have found expressions for the bolometric correction as a function of luminosity based on calculated and observed QSO-SEDs, respectively. Both functions gave consistent results,  $\log(L_{\text{bol}}[\text{erg s}^{-1}]) = 42.45$  within the  $\sim 0.1$  scatter of the expressions. However, Vasudevan & Fabian (2007) have shown that for narrow-line Seyfert 1 galaxies (NLSy1s) bolometric luminosities derived through bolometric corrections can differ significantly from the ones obtained via SED-fitting. Given the similarities of IRAS 01072+4954 with the NLSy1s, it is important to look at the possible deviations introduced by the application of that correction derived for a typical AGN population. In the sample of NLSy1s studied by Vasudevan & Fabian (2007), 6 out of 9 sources have fitted-SED bolometric luminosities higher (2 sources the same within the errors and 1 lower) than the ones estimated via the bolometric correction. Hence, in NLSy1s the  $L_{\text{bol}}$  obtained via bolometric correction might be underestimated, and in our source it can be considered as a possible lower limit. This means that  $L_{\text{bol}} \gtrsim 2.5 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  and that the central massive black hole in IRAS 01072+4954 is accreting at a high rate  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} \sim 0.2$ . Such surprising result for a LLAGN is due to the fact that although its luminosity is low (typical for a LLAGN), its black hole mass is very low compared with classical AGN. The Eddington ratio obtained in this way agrees with the expected value of  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} = 0.30 \pm 0.05$  from the  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} - \Gamma$  relation found by Shemmer et al. (2008) in unabsorbed, luminous radio-quiet AGN. Here, we used  $\Gamma = 2.1$ , which is the photon index of the power-law fitted to the X-ray spectrum (Panessa et al. 2005).

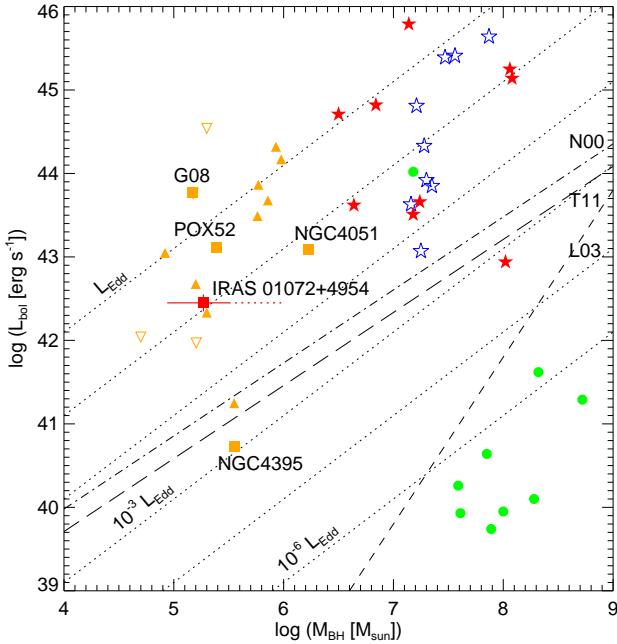
The estimated black hole mass and bolometric luminosity of IRAS 01072+4954 place it in the  $M_{\text{BH}}-L_{\text{bol}}$  diagram far from the region where theoretically the True-Sy2 are located (Fig. 10). Instead, it is placed in the area occupied by IMBHs and well-studied NLSy1s. The diagram also shows the limits that different authors have predicted for the disappearance of the BLR. For example, in the model proposed by Laor (2003), this could happen at  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{BLs}} > 25000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . In Fig. 10 the dashed line labeled as L03 represents  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{BLs}} = 25000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

#### 4.4. Properties of the predicted broad-line region

In summary, if IRAS 01072+4954 behaves as other AGN, it must have a BLR. In the following we will assume that the properties of the BLR scale with the luminosity as has been shown for black holes with higher masses (e.g. Netzer & Laor 1993; Kaspi et al. 2000; Bentz et al. 2009) to derive the observationally expected fluxes and widths of the BL.

From the Kaspi et al. (2000) relation, with the updated values of Bentz et al. (2009), we estimated the size of the BLR to be  $R_{\text{BLR}} \sim 1$  light-day, equivalently  $\sim 10^{-3} \text{ pc}$  or  $\sim 10^5 R_S$  (where  $R_S = 2GM_{\text{BH}}/c^2$  is the Schwarzschild radius of the black hole). The uncertainty is around 1 order of magnitude, mainly due to the error of the zero-point of the correlation. Such  $R_{\text{BLR}}$  is expected from the specific luminosity at 5100Å,  $L_{5100} \approx 1.3 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ , which was estimated from the bolometric luminosity.

In Seyferts and QSO, the strength of the hydrogen recombination lines scales with the X-ray luminosity (e.g., Kriss et al. 1980; Ward et al. 1988). The total H $\alpha$  flux (narrow+broad components, when present) of LINERS and LLAGN compared with their X-ray fluxes (soft and hard X-rays) seem to follow the same trend (e.g., Koratkar et al. 1995; Terashima et al. 2000; Ho et al. 2001), suggesting that they could be scaled-down versions of more massive and powerful AGN. Recently, Stern & Laor (2012) studied the relation between the broad H $\alpha$  emission and the luminosity in a sample of about 3600 type 1 AGN selected from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey, with H $\alpha$  luminosities in the



**Fig. 10.** Black hole mass vs. bolometric luminosity diagram. The dotted lines correspond to different Eddington ratios. Theoretical upper limits of True-Sy2s predicted by different authors are also marked: Nicastro (2000) ‘N00’ (dot-dashed line), Laor (2003) ‘L03’ (short-dashed line) and Trump et al. (2011) ‘T11’ (long-dashed line). The location of IRAS 01072+4954 is compared with other sources from the literature. Sy1 and Sy2 from Singh et al. (2011) are symbolized as red and blue stars, respectively; IMBH compiled by Dewangan et al. (2008) and low-mass Sy2s from Thornton et al. (2009) are solid and empty triangles. True-Sy2 candidates of Laor (2003) are filled circles. Other well-known NLSy1s: NGC 4395, NGC 4051 and SDSS J114008.71+030711.4 indicated as ‘G08’ and the dwarf-elliptical Sy1 POX 52 are shown.

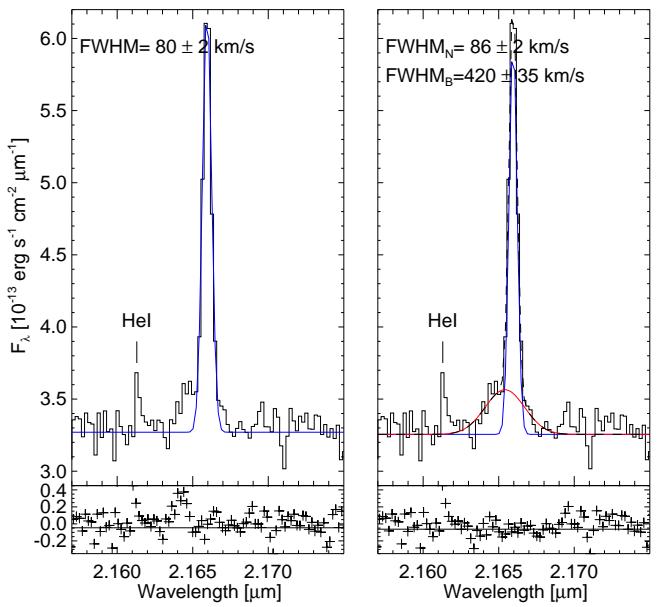
range  $7 \times 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  to  $10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ . They found that the luminosity of the broad  $\text{H}\alpha$  component is related to the specific luminosity at 2 keV as

$$\log [\nu L_\nu(2\text{keV})] = 0.79 \log (L_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha}) + 0.45, \quad (7)$$

where both luminosities are in units of  $10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ . Moreover, assuming that the BLR emitting clouds are virialized ( $\text{FWHM}^2 \propto M_{\text{BH}}/R_{\text{BLR}}$ ; e.g., Laor 1998; Netzer 2009), the authors found that the characteristic parameters of the emitted broad  $\text{H}\alpha$  line, i.e.  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha}$  and luminosity, are related to the black hole mass through

$$\log \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{M_\odot} \right) = 7.40 + 2.06 \log \left( \frac{\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha}}{1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right) + 0.545 \log \left( \frac{L_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha}}{10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \right), \quad (8)$$

with a dispersion of  $\sim 0.25$  dex. Using these expressions, we found that the expected flux of the broad  $\text{H}\alpha$  line is  $F_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \simeq 4.8 \times 10^{-14} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  with a width of  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \simeq 435 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . If on the other hand, we use  $L_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \approx L_{\text{bol}}/130$ , which was also proposed by Stern & Laor (2012), then the expected values are



**Fig. 11.** Fit of the  $\text{Br}\gamma$  line emission. A single Gaussian fitted to the data is shown in the left panel. The right panel shows the data fitted with two Gaussians, where the thin solid lines correspond to the individual components and the dashed line to the overall fit. The FWHM of the fitted lines are marked in each case. At the bottom of both panels the residuals of the individual fits are marked with crosses.

$$F_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \simeq 1.7 \times 10^{-14} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ and } \text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} = 600 \text{ km s}^{-1}.$$

Whether or not such a component is present in the optical spectrum (see Moran et al. 1996, their Fig. 5) is not clear. Although their spectral resolution ( $\sim 200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) is sufficient to measure such a width, the data covers an area of  $\sim 2 \times 1 \text{ kpc}^2$  on source and the  $\text{H}\alpha$  line is blended at the base with the neighboring  $[\text{N II}]$  lines. Can we see in our observations broad lines with that properties? In the NIFS data, the strongest recombination line is  $\text{Br}\gamma$ . We assumed  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{Br}\gamma} \simeq \text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha}$  and  $F_{\text{broad},\text{Br}\gamma} \approx F_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha}/100$  to scale the BL properties in the two bands. Note that, formally, the theoretical case-B is not applicable (however see Rhee & Larkin 2000; Zhou et al. 2006; Kim et al. 2010); nevertheless we used it as a first approximation. According to Eq.(1) the detection of such a broad  $\text{Br}\gamma$  emission is around the limit of our instrumental capabilities. We looked in the NIFS K-band central spectrum for indications of a BL of that characteristics. Fig. 11 shows a zoom around  $2.166 \mu\text{m}$  where in the left and right panels, one (only narrow) and two (narrow and broad) simple Gaussian components, respectively, were fitted to the data. In the second case, the broad component has a  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{Br}\gamma} \simeq 420 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and  $F_{\text{broad},\text{Br}\gamma} \simeq 1.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ , with a peak shifted by  $0.7 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{m}$ .

To check the possibility of this component being a BL, or the tip of a BL, we performed several tests. We fitted the

<sup>7</sup> Using the relations obtained by Xiao et al. (2011, their Eqs.(5-6)) we obtained  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \sim 750 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

$\text{Br}\gamma$  line with a two Gaussian components, to account for the narrow and the broad emissions, in every spatial pixel of the FOV. As a result, the broad component peaks and is wider at the center, while the narrow component peaks few pixels towards the north, at a position  $\sim 100$  pc away from the center at the redshift of the galaxy. However, that could be a result of the  $S/N$ , which increases towards the nucleus, so we took increasingly larger apertures and found that the FWHM of the ‘broad’ component decreases systematically with the aperture radius. On the other hand, if the feature observed around  $2.166\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  originates in the BLR, it should not be present in the profile of forbidden lines like  $[\text{Fe II}]$ . Given that the densities in the BLR are higher than the critical densities under which forbidden lines form, both kinds of lines originate from spatially separated regions and are, therefore, kinematically de-coupled. When comparing the LOSVD of  $\text{Br}\gamma$  and  $[\text{Fe II}]$  emissions, using e.g. channel maps, we did not find similarities. A direct comparison between the  $\text{Br}\gamma$  and the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  line shapes at the nucleus is unfortunately not possible. The reason is that the continuum around the spectral position of the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  line  $\lambda 1.644\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  cannot be determined accurately enough to recognize the presence of any faint ‘broader’ emission. The main drawbacks are the lack of spectral templates with high-spectral resolution in the H-band and the presence of strong features in the continuum around  $\lambda 1.644\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , such as the CO(7-4) absorption band starting at  $\lambda 1.640\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and a residual-sky line at  $1.645\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . In general, although the fitted flux and width of the ‘broad’  $\text{Br}\gamma$  component agree with the predicted ones, this result is not a firm detection ( $S/N = 2.8$ ), but it is an interesting coincidence that allows us to speculate about the nature of the observed  $\text{Br}\gamma$ -‘hump’. A confirmation of the existence of such faint BLs will require high-angular and high-spectral resolution observations of stronger lines like  $\text{Pa}\alpha$  or  $\text{Pa}\beta$ .

#### 4.5. Other explanations for the emission at $2.16\text{ }\mu\text{m}$

Here we present briefly other possible situations that could create the ‘broad’ feature at  $2.16\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ .

The presence of outflows in the NIR spectrum of Seyfert galaxies is traced by the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  emission (Blietz et al. 1994; Riffel & Storchi-Bergmann 2011b). In sources like NGC 4151 (Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009), Mrk 1066 (Riffel & Storchi-Bergmann 2011a) and Mrk 1157 (Riffel & Storchi-Bergmann 2011b) the kinematics of the ionized gas is found to be consistent with previously observed radio emission of jet structures. In Paper II we show that in the inner  $\sim 250$  pc of IRAS 01072+4954 the LOSVD of the  $[\text{Fe II}]$  emitting gas can be interpreted as an outflow with a line of sight velocity  $V_{\text{LOS},[\text{Fe II}]}\lesssim -60\text{ km s}^{-1}$ . The kinematics of ionized-hydrogen ( $\text{Br}\gamma$ ) is consistent with motion in a disk, but extra components cannot be discarded. To consider the possibility for the  $\text{Br}\gamma$ -‘hump’ to correspond to a blue-shifted emission from wind, we modeled the  $\text{Br}\gamma$  line with two narrow-Gaussian components, one for the observed line and the other for the blue-shifted wing. Although the quality of the fit is good, the resulting shift of the wing-component is  $\sim -180\text{ km s}^{-1}$  which would represent a clear deviation from the disk-profile that is not observed. When mapping the two thin components across the FOV, the velocity field of the blue-shifted component – that represents the  $\text{Br}\gamma$ -‘wind’ – does not follow the LOSVD

of the  $[\text{Fe II}]$ , which argues against an outflow as the origin of the  $\text{Br}\gamma$ -‘hump’.

Another possibility is the presence of a blended emission from other species close to  $\text{Br}\gamma$ . Given that we also detect  $\text{He I}(2\text{s}^1\text{S} - 2\text{p}^1\text{P}^0)$  at  $2.0587\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , we looked for other helium emission lines within  $0.002\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  around  $2.1661\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  (the resolution of the instrument at that wavelength is  $\sim 4 \times 10^{-4}\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ). Theoretically, two helium lines could be there:  $\text{He II}(14-8)$  at  $2.1653\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and  $\text{He I}(4-7)$  at  $2.1660\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . The latter one is impossible to resolve out of  $\text{Br}\gamma$  in case it is present. Of the former one, we calculated the maximum flux contribution based on the upper limit of the flux of the undetect  $\text{He II}(14-7)$  at  $1.4882\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . Using the recombination coefficients of Hummer & Storey (1987) assuming case-B,  $T = 10^4\text{ K}$  and  $N_e = 10^4\text{ cm}^{-3}$ , we obtained  $F_{\text{He II}(14-8)} < 0.1 \times 10^{-16}\text{ erg s}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-2}$ . This implies that a potential helium line could at maximum account for  $\sim 10\%$  of the observed emission in the blue-shifted wing.

## 5. On the nature of the source

IRAS 01072+4954 is a composite galaxy that has low X-ray absorption towards the center while its optical spectrum lacks broad emission lines. This source is a candidate to harbor a True-Sy2 nucleus, hence the main objective of this study was to investigate the nature of its peculiar emission.

Our NIR observations revealed low obscuration in the inner 75 pc and the presence of dust with  $T > 1000\text{ K}$  arguing for a clear view towards the nucleus, which is consistent with the X-ray data. If the idea that the toroidal obscuration and the BLR are connected products of the same disk-driven wind (e.g. Elitzur 2008), then this source must have a BLR given the clear signature of hot dust in the central HK-spectrum. Another argument against the True-Sy 2 hypothesis is the high-Eddington ratio ( $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} \sim 0.2$ ), as shown in Fig. 10. This corresponds to a high/soft-accretion state with a geometrically-thin optically-thick disk.

Assuming the validity of the  $M_{\text{BH}} - L_{\text{bulge}}$  and  $M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma_*$  relations, IRAS 01072+4954 hosts a black hole of  $\lesssim 10^6\text{ M}_\odot$  and it shares the same X-ray properties of other IMBHs: short-term variability and  $\Gamma \sim 1.7 - 2.6$  (e.g., Greene & Ho 2007; Dewangan et al. 2008; Desroches et al. 2009)<sup>8</sup>. If the properties of the BLR scale with the luminosity like in more massive ( $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^{6-8}\text{ M}_\odot$ ) AGN, the width and the flux of the expected broad emission lines in this source are below the lower end of the values observed in classical AGN and in the low range of those in NLSy1s. for example, in the homogeneous sample of  $\sim 2000$  NLSy1s from the SDSS DR3 by Zhou et al. (2006), there are  $\sim 500$  objects with  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \leq 1200\text{ km s}^{-1}$ , of which  $\sim 25$  ( $\sim 1\%$ ) are below  $700\text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Those 25 sources have  $\langle L_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \rangle = 4.3 \times 10^{41}\text{ erg s}^{-1}$ ; in comparison, we estimated  $L_{\text{broad},\text{H}\alpha} \sim (2.0 - 6.0) \times 10^{40}\text{ erg s}^{-1}$  for our source. IRAS 01072+4954 could be an extreme NLSy1, however it does not show the characteristic  $\text{Fe II}$  emission in the optical spectrum. Ai et al. (2011) suggested the existence of

<sup>8</sup> Here we refer to the photon index obtained when a single power-law is fitted to the 0.3-10 keV data, as used by Dewangan et al. (2008). Other authors describe the X-ray spectra using two power-law functions, hence derive a soft- and a hard- photon indexes,  $\Gamma_S$  and  $\Gamma_H$ . Then using  $\Gamma_S$  to characterize NLSy1 is justified because the emission of a Sakura-Sunayev disk peaks close to the soft X-ray domain.

two kinds of IMBH sources, distinguishing the NLSy1s for their well known features, i.e., strong Fe II emission, significant soft X-ray excess and high Eddington ratios. The other IMBHs would have flatter spectral slopes (more typical of Sy1s), non-ubiquity of the soft X-ray excess, and low accretion rate. The closest and by now the most studied case is NGC 4395 (e.g., Filippenko & Sargent 1989; Peterson et al. 2005; Laor 2007). The authors proposed the Eddington ratio to be the driving mechanism for the observed properties. However, the properties of those two classes get mixed in the case of IRAS 01072+4954. Zhou et al. (2006) have already commented on the existence of “Fe II-deficient” NLSy1 in sources with high accretion rate and very narrow broad-Balmer lines. Moreover, if the physical conditions for iron production in IMBHs are the same as in more massive AGN then, according to the correlations found by Dong et al. (2011), in sources with Eddington ratios of  $\gtrsim 0.2$  (as this one), the expected flux of the broad Fe II line is about the same as the expected flux of the broad H $\beta$  component, and the flux of the narrow Fe II is a tenth of it ( $10 \times F_{\text{narrow, Fe II} \lambda 4570} \sim F_{\text{broad, Fe II} \lambda 4570} \sim F_{\text{broad, H}\beta}$ ). This means that in cases of very faint broad components, even for objects with high accretion rate, strong Fe II is not expected to be observed.

IRAS 01072+4954 appears to have a pseudobulge, a common characteristic of objects with IMBHs (a counterexample is Pox 52, a dwarf elliptical galaxy with  $M_{\text{BH}} \simeq 3 \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$ ; Thornton et al. 2008), which is taken as indicative of secular evolution (e.g., Kormendy & Kennicutt 2004; Mathur et al. 2011; Orban de Xivry et al. 2011). High-angular resolution observations of the whole galaxy are required to perform a better photometric decomposition and to establish the presence of nuclear structures related with the black hole feeding and feedback mechanisms.

Here, it is important to point out that the optical, NIR and X-ray observations were not taken simultaneously. Therefore, intermittent obscuration due to, e.g., a clumpy torus cannot be discarded as a reason for the absence of BLs (see e.g., Risaliti et al. 2005; Longinotti et al. 2009; Marchese et al. 2012). As mentioned before, the source presents long-term variability in the X-rays. For example, from 1990 to 2002 the soft X-ray flux decreased by about 1.1 orders of magnitude, but in 2005 it increased again. Here we always referred to the measurements performed by Panessa et al. (2005), presuming that by the time of our observations (2008) the X-ray emission did not change dramatically. In consequence, we expect our main conclusions still to be valid.

## 6. Summary and conclusions

We have discussed the nature of the active nucleus in IRAS 01072+4954, an unobscured starburst/Seyfert composite galaxy. The observations were performed with the integral-field spectrometer NIFS operated with the ALTAIR laser-guide adaptive-optics module at the Gemini-North Telescope. We based our analysis on H- and K-band data from the central  $\approx 75$  pc with spectral resolution  $\sim 60$  km s $^{-1}$ .

IRAS 01072+4954 has an X-ray emission typical of Sy1s ( $N_H < 0.04 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ,  $\Gamma \sim 2.1$  and strong short-term variability), but the optical spectrum (taken from a  $\sim 1 \times 2$  kpc $^2$  region) lacks the expected broad lines. We studied the main hypotheses for the apparent absence of the broad

components: (i) extinction from cold dust along the line of sight, (ii) nuclear star formation that outshines the AGN emission, (iii) presence of hot dust obscuration, possibly related to the putative torus of the unified model, (iv) non-existence of the BLR, hosting a True-Sy2 nucleus; finding for each case that:

(i) The extinction measured from the hydrogen recombination lines in the NIR is  $A_V = 2.5$  mag towards the nucleus, which is consistent with the one measured in other Seyfert galaxies from high-angular resolution NIR observations ( $\langle A_V \rangle \simeq (4 \pm 3)$  mag, in both types of AGN). We did not find a relation between the extinction measured in the NIR and the observability of broad lines.

(ii) The star formation is a dominant process in this galaxy. The NIR diagnostic diagram places the nuclear line ratios at the border between starburst galaxies and seyferts. However, in the central region, the star-formation rate density is  $\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} < 11.6 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ , which is below the lower limit of the range  $50 - 500 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$  observed in Seyferts. Older stellar population with ages  $\gtrsim 10^7$  yrs accounts for about 75% of the continuum flux.

(iii) Whitout taking into account the possible presence of a featureless continuum power-law component, that could not be constrained with our data, about 25% of the HK-band continuum is emitted by hot dust at a temperature of  $\sim 1100$  K. Considering that in Type 1 sources  $T \gtrsim 1000$  K, whereas in Type 2s  $T \lesssim 800$  K, we interpreted this result as an indication of a clear view towards the center. This is also consistent with the low absorption column density estimated by Panessa et al. (2005) from X-ray observations.

(iv) We did not find reasons to support the possibility of IRAS 01072+4954 to be a True-Sy2. The main arguments are the unresolved hot-dust emission that signifies the presence of a torus, which is predicted to form and persist while the BLR is launched, and the high Eddington ratio expected for sources hosting a BLR.

IRAS 01072+4954 seems to have a pseudobulge ( $n \sim 1.1$  and  $r_e = 160$  pc) with a stellar-velocity dispersion of 35 km s $^{-1}$ . From the  $M_{\text{BH}} - L_{\text{bulge}}$  and  $M_{\text{BH}} - \sigma_*$  relations, we estimated the black hole mass to be about  $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^5 M_{\odot}$  with an upper limit of  $M_{\text{BH}} \lesssim 2.5 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ . Applying a bolometric correction to the X-ray luminosity, we calculated  $L_{\text{bol}} \approx 2.8 \times 10^{42} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  and an accretion rate of  $\dot{m} = \lambda_{\text{Edd}} \sim 0.2$ , which implies a high/soft state with a geometrically-thin accretion disk. Assuming that the relations found in classical AGN can be extrapolated to this range of black hole masses and luminosities, the properties of the expected broad-emission lines were determined:  $F_{\text{broad, H}\alpha} \sim (1.7 - 4.8) \times 10^{-14} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  and  $\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad, H}\alpha} \sim (400 - 600) \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Thus, the main reason for the non-detection of the BLR is the faintness of the broad-emission lines. In our observations, we observe a ‘hump’ around the position of the Br $\gamma$  line with the theoretically predicted flux and width a broad Br $\gamma$  component should have. A proper detection would require higher S/N data. All of these properties are similar to those found in NLSy1s, but IRAS 01072+4954 lacks the Fe II emission typical for these sources. Nonetheless, at its Eddington ratio, the flux of the Fe II is about the same as the one of the broad-H $\beta$  component, and therefore requires high resolution to be detected.

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